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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michelle Woods, et al.

Serial No.: 10/041,070

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: **NEW AND IMPROVED SANITARY
TOOTHBUSH**

Examiner: Chin, Randall

Art Unit: 1744

CORRECTED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, which was mailed on July 15, 2004, the applicants for the above application hereby re-submit corrected amendments to the claims. A petition for a one-month extension of time to extend the time to respond until September 15, 2004 is being filed herewith.

Amendments to the Claims, as corrected, are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A new and improved sanitary toothbrush, comprising:

[(a) A]a handle [portion, formed of a rigid material,] having an upper surface, a lower surface, a distal end, a proximal end, and an elongated intermediate portion [in] therebetween:

[(b) T]the distal end of the handle having a brush unit generally comprised of a rectangular head portion adjacent and integral thereto, the head portion having an upper surface with a plurality of bristle tufts extending outward therefrom; and

[(c) T]the entire proximal end of the handle generally comprised of a curved shape in the form of a hook for hanging the toothbrush, said curved proximal end being of sufficient size, dimension and radius to allow for the hanging or suspension of the toothbrush in an upside down position.

2. (Currently Amended) The toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle extends outwardly in a direction that is opposite to the bristle tufts.

3. (Original) The toothbrush according to Claim 2, wherein the elongated intermediate portion is designed and shaped to represent a tailed animal, with the curved proximal end of the toothbrush forming the tail of the animal.

4. (Original) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a monkey, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the monkey's tail.

5. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a snake, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the snake's tail.

6. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is an alligator, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the alligator's tail.

7. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a dinosaur, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the dinosaur's tail.

8. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a dolphin, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the dolphin's tail.

9. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a giraffe, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the giraffe's tail.

10. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a duck, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the duck's tail.

11. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a tiger, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the tiger's tail.
12. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a parrot and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the parrot's tail.
13. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a stork, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the stork's tail.
14. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to Claim 3, wherein the designed and shaped animal represented in the intermediate portion of the handle is a seal, and where the curved proximal end of the handle is designed and shaped as the seal's tail.
15. (Previously Withdrawn) The toothbrush according to any of the preceding Claims, wherein the curved proximal end of the toothbrush is further of sufficient size, dimension and radius to create a gripping mechanism by allowing the toothbrush to be held by the hand while brushing the teeth.
16. (New) A new and improved sanitary toothbrush, comprising:
- a handle including a proximal end, a distal end, and an elongated intermediate portion disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, wherein the intermediate portion defines the shape of an animal and the proximal end defines the shape of a feature of the animal, the proximal end further being curved and of sufficient size, dimension and radius to allow for the hanging or suspension of the toothbrush in an upside down position; and

a brush unit comprising a plurality of bristle tufts connected to handle proximal to the distal end.

17. (New) The toothbrush according to claim 16, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle forms the tail of the animal.

18. (New) The toothbrush according to Claim 16, wherein the curved proximal end of the handle extends outwardly in a direction that is opposite to the bristle tufts.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 501472.

Respectfully submitted,
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By:



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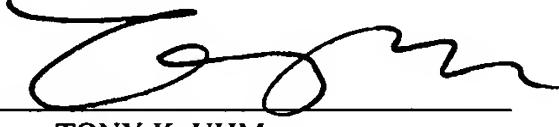
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Date: Monday, August 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 30, 2004.

Dated: August 30, 2004

By: 
TONY K. UHM